Appendix Two

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Focus Group Protocol

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**NETWORKED MULTIMEDIA INFORMATION SERVICES (NMIS)
INTERNET CNN NEWSROOM EVALUATION PROJECT**

FOCUS GROUP PROTOCOL

**LEXINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
JANUARY 22, 1996**

Interviewers: Russell Rothstein, Jae Roh and Sonia Arora

A Social Studies high school class in Lexington High School will comprise the respondent set for this study. The class will begin at 7:50am in one of the classes in the school. We will arrive shortly before the beginning of the class and walk into the classroom at the same time as the students.

After we enter the teacher will explain to the students that we will be observing them and then talking with them in group. We will then observe the teacher use Internet CNN NEWSROOM as she does on a typical day. We will take notes regarding student usage and if relevant, add questions to the question list for the focus group (see below).

After the teacher has finished using Internet CNN NEWSROOM, the teacher will instruct two sets of four students to attend the focus group for twenty minutes. Each of the two leaders will take one of the student groups into a private area and begin the focus group. At the conclusion of the focus group, the leaders and students will return to the class and the teacher will designate two more sets of students for the second round of focus groups.

Each of the sessions will be taped using a small audio tape recorder. At the start of the session, the students will be told that the conversation will be recorded. They will be asked if they would not like to participate in the session. Any students that ask to be excluded will be sent back to the classroom.

Questions will be asked of the groups relating to their experiences with Internet CNN NEWSROOM. Potential questions include:

- What do you think of this program? How would you describe it?
- What's the best thing about Internet CNN NEWSROOM?
- What's the worst thing about Internet CNN NEWSROOM?
- Do you think it's fun to use? Easy or difficult?
- What do you think would make the Internet CNN NEWSROOM better? (i.e. Kid reporters?)
- Do you enjoy learning about current events/news?

In a separate session, we will interview the teacher. This interview will take place over the phone one evening in January. The teacher will be asked to describe her experiences with Internet CNN NEWSROOM. Potential questions include:

- How often do you use the Internet CNN NEWSROOM?
- Do you use it to teach specific lessons on social studies or do you teach it as a regular current events segment during the class period?
- How attentive are students while you use the Internet CNN NEWSROOM?
- Do students refer to things they learned through Internet CNN NEWSROOM in a different context directly or indirectly?
- Do students use Internet CNN NEWSROOM for class projects/assignments?
- Do you prefer the Internet version over the broadcast version? Why?
- How does this tool help and hurt your teaching of the subject matter?
- What recommendations do you have for improvement?

Appendix Three

Survey ID No. __LEXA3__

Relax! This is NOT a test. It's a survey. In a survey you get to answer questions about how you think and feel about different things. There are NO wrong answers. You WON'T be graded on this and no one else, not even the teacher or the principal, will see your answers.

You don't have to fill out this survey. Also, you can skip any questions that you don't want to answer.

Please read over the survey questions carefully and be sure to ask if you are unsure of the meaning of any question.

Instructions: Check the box next to your answer for each question. Check *only one* box for each question.

1.   How often do you watch the news on TV at home?
      (check one answer)
      ❑   Every day
      ❑   A few times a week
      ❑   Once a week
      ❑   Once a month
      ❑   Never

2.   How often do you read the newspaper?
      (check one answer)
      ❑   Every day
      ❑   A few times a week
      ❑   Once a week
      ❑   Once a month
      ❑   Never

3.   How often do you use computers?
      (check one answer)
      ❑   Every day
      ❑   A few times a week
      ❑   Once a week
      ❑   Once a month
      ❑   Never

4.   For school projects, the *most* important source of information I use is:
      (check one answer)
      ❑   Books
      ❑   Newspapers and magazines
      ❑   Stories and information from my parents
      ❑   Television
      ❑   Computers
      ❑   Other (specify) _____

5.   Current events are:
      (check one answer)
      ❑   Very interesting
      ❑   Interesting
      ❑   Not interesting
      ❑   Boring
      ❑   Very boring

6. How much do you know about current events?
   (check one answer)
   - ❏ A lot
   - ❏ Some
   - ❏ Not much
   - ❏ Nothing

7. The Global Studies class is :
   (check one answer)
   - ❏ Very interesting
   - ❏ Interesting
   - ❏ Not interesting
   - ❏ Boring
   - ❏ Very boring

8. How much do you like to do research projects and papers about current events?
   (check one answer)
   - ❏ I like them very much.
   - ❏ I like them somewhat.
   - ❏ I neither like them nor dislike them.
   - ❏ I dislike them.
   - ❏ I strongly dislike them.

9. In the Global Studies class, I participate in discussion:
   (check one answer)
   - ❏ A lot
   - ❏ Some
   - ❏ Not much
   - ❏ Not at all

10. In my other classes, I participate in discussion:
    - ❏ A lot
    - ❏ Some
    - ❏ Not much
    - ❏ Not at all

11. In the Global Studies class, I work together with other students:
    (check one answer)
    - ❏ Much more often than in other classes
    - ❏ More often than in other classes
    - ❏ Just as often as in other classes

Instructions: Indicate how much experience you have with each of the following technologies. (check only one box for each question)

	A lot	Some	Not Much	None
12. PC's/Macintoshes	❏	❏	❏	❏
13. The Internet	❏	❏	❏	❏
14. World Wide Web (WWW)	❏	❏	❏	❏

Instructions: For the next two questions, place a check in the box next to *as many answers as apply.*

15.　I use computers for:
　　　(check **all** answers that apply)

❏　Learning　　　　❏　Programming
❏　Playing games　　❏　Other (specify)_____
❏　Work　　　　　　❏　Nothing

16.　In my opinion, computers are really good for:
　　　(check **all** answers that apply)

❏　Learning　　　　❏　Other (specify) _____
❏　Playing games　　❏　Nothing
❏　Work　　　　　　❏　I don't know
❏　Programming

Instructions: For the last question, answer the following questions *in your own words.*

17.　What are the three most important current events in the news today? For each of these three current events, where did you learn about it?

Important current event	Where you learned about it

Instructions: This final part of the survey asks you to comment on *Internet CNN NEWSROOM*, the system that you use during Global Studies class.

18. How often would you like the teacher to use *Internet CNN NEWSROOM* during Global Studies class?
(check **one** answer)

❑ More often than we use it now
❑ Just as often as we use it now
❑ Less often than we use it now

Instructions: In the next section, place a check in the box next to *as many answers as apply.*

19. Which of the following tasks do you know how to do on your own using *Internet CNN NEWSROOM*? (check **all** answers that apply)

❑ Play a news story
❑ Find past news stories about a particular subject
❑ Use the information in the news stories for your class projects and reports
❑ Copy video, pictures or text from the news stories into your projects and reports
❑ None of the above

20. Which of the following tasks would you like to be able to do on your own using *Internet CNN NEWSROOM*? (check **all** answers that apply)

❑ Play a news story
❑ Find past news stories about a particular subject
❑ Use the information in the news stories for your class projects and reports
❑ Copy video, pictures or text from the news stories into your projects and reports
❑ None of the above

21. What do you like *most* about Internet CNN NEWSROOM?

22. What do you like *least* about Internet CNN NEWSROOM?

Appendix Four

1. How often do you watch the news on TV at home?

	LEXSTUDY			LEXCONTROL			BELCONTROL		
	September (n=31)	January (n=24)	April (n=26)	September (n=24)	January (n=16)	April (n=17)	September (n=44)	January (n=40)	April (n=32)
Every day	26%	25%	19%	40%	25%	71%	27%	33%	41%
A few times a week	35%	42%	35%	35%	50%	6%	41%	43%	22%
Once a week	23%	17%	19%	5%	13%	24%	18%	10%	16%
Once a month	6%	17%	19%	10%	13%	0%	7%	8%	19%
Never	10%	0%	8%	10%	0%	0%	7%	5%	3%

2. How often do you read the newspaper?

	LEXSTUDY			LEXCONTROL			BELCONTROL		
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
Every day	6%	13%	4%	30%	19%	29%	14%	15%	22%
A few times a week	23%	8%	27%	40%	38%	35%	45%	48%	34%
Once a week	29%	38%	23%	15%	25%	18%	32%	28%	34%
Once a month	29%	29%	27%	10%	6%	18%	7%	8%	6%
Never	13%	13%	19%	5%	13%	0%	0%	3%	3%

3. How often do you use computers?

	LEXSTUDY			LEXCONTROL			BELCONTROL		
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
Every day	13%	13%	27%	10%	25%	29%	20%	13%	16%
A few times a week	39%	67%	35%	65%	56%	29%	32%	45%	44%
Once a week	26%	17%	23%	15%	13%	29%	30%	23%	25%
Once a month	19%	4%	15%	10%	6%	12%	11%	13%	16%
Never	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	3%	0%

4. For school projects, the *most* important source of information I use is:

	LEXSTUDY			LEXCONTROL			BELCONTROL		
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
Books	55%	29%	42%	60%	69%	53%	91%	85%	84%
Newspapers and magazines	3%	4%	4%	0%	13%	12%	0%	3%	3%
Stories & information from my parents	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	2%	0%	0%
Television	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Computers	39%	67%	54%	40%	19%	29%	7%	10%	13%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

5. Current events are:

	LEXSTUDY			LEXCONTROL			BELCONTROL		
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
Very interesting	6%	0%	8%	10%	0%	24%	18%	13%	16%
Interesting	71%	79%	54%	70%	81%	41%	70%	80%	66%
Not interesting	13%	13%	31%	15%	13%	29%	7%	8%	19%
Boring	3%	4%	4%	5%	6%	6%	0%	0%	0%
Very boring	6%	4%	4%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%

6.   How much do you know about current events?

| | LEXSTUDY | | | LEXCONTROL | | | BELCONTROL | | |
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
A lot	10%	4%	4%	5%	6%	29%	14%	13%	16%
Some	58%	58%	65%	65%	81%	59%	64%	68%	56%
Not much	29%	38%	23%	30%	13%	12%	18%	20%	28%
Not at all	3%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%

7.   The Global/American Studies class is:

| | LEXSTUDY | | | LEXCONTROL | | | BELCONTROL | | |
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
Very interesting	19%	4%	0%	5%	6%	18%	14%	0%	0%
Interesting	58%	50%	50%	65%	25%	24%	41%	30%	16%
Not interesting	16%	29%	27%	20%	31%	41%	27%	33%	56%
Boring	3%	13%	19%	5%	19%	18%	11%	23%	13%
Very boring	3%	4%	4%	5%	19%	0%	5%	15%	16%

8.   How much do you like to do research projects and papers about current events?

| | LEXSTUDY | | | LEXCONTROL | | | BELCONTROL | | |
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
I like them very much.	3%	4%	4%	5%	6%	12%	7%	3%	13%
I like them somewhat.	32%	29%	27%	20%	31%	41%	32%	28%	13%
I neither like them nor dislike them.	32%	29%	31%	45%	38%	29%	43%	45%	43%
I dislike them.	23%	29%	31%	10%	13%	12%	7%	13%	13%
I strongly dislike them.	10%	8%	8%	20%	13%	6%	9%	10%	17%

9. In the Global/American Studies class, I participate in discussion:

	LEXSTUDY			LEXCONTROL			BELCONTROL		
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
A lot	10%	13%	12%	30%	31%	35%	30%	23%	28%
Some	48%	38%	46%	45%	44%	29%	32%	33%	34%
Not much	35%	42%	42%	25%	25%	35%	32%	40%	22%
Not at all	6%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	5%	16%

10. In my other classes, I participate in discussion:

	LEXSTUDY			LEXCONTROL			BELCONTROL		
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
A lot	10%	13%	19%	20%	50%	35%	39%	35%	41%
Some	71%	50%	50%	75%	44%	47%	48%	40%	44%
Not much	16%	38%	31%	5%	6%	18%	11%	25%	13%
Not at all	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%

11. In the Global/American Studies class, I work together with other students:

	LEXSTUDY			LEXCONTROL			BELCONTROL		
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
Much more often than in other classes	23%	25%	12%	20%	31%	35%	0%	3%	13%
More often than in other classes	61%	42%	35%	55%	13%	41%	23%	18%	25%
Just as often as in other classes	16%	33%	46%	20%	56%	24%	50%	63%	47%
Less often than in other classes	0%	0%	8%	5%	0%	0%	23%	18%	16%
Much less often than in other classes	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

12. How much experience do you have with PC's/Macintoshes?

| | LEXSTUDY | | | LEXCONTROL | | | BELCONTROL | | |
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
A lot	32%	42%	46%	30%	31%	50%	48%	43%	60%
Some	52%	50%	46%	40%	38%	44%	39%	48%	30%
Not much	13%	8%	8%	10%	13%	6%	9%	5%	7%
None	3%	0%	0%	15%	13%	0%	2%	0%	3%

13. How much experience do you have with The Internet?

| | LEXSTUDY | | | LEXCONTROL | | | BELCONTROL | | |
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
A lot	6%	21%	15%	25%	25%	18%	5%	18%	10%
Some	23%	29%	31%	10%	25%	24%	16%	20%	32%
Not much	29%	46%	50%	15%	31%	59%	41%	28%	29%
None	42%	4%	4%	50%	19%	0%	36%	30%	29%

14. How much experience do you have with World Wide Web (WWW)?

| | LEXSTUDY | | | LEXCONTROL | | | BELCONTROL | | |
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
A lot	6%	17%	15%	5%	13%	12%	5%	13%	6%
Some	3%	21%	31%	15%	31%	24%	7%	8%	26%
Not much	29%	42%	38%	10%	31%	65%	9%	20%	29%
None	61%	21%	15%	70%	25%	0%	77%	55%	39%

15.   I use computers for:

	LEXSTUDY			LEXCONTROL			BELCONTROL		
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
Learning	84%	92%	73%	75%	50%	65%	55%	65%	65%
Playing games	84%	88%	88%	95%	94%	94%	82%	85%	74%
Work	90%	92%	77%	95%	100%	88%	84%	88%	87%
Programming	19%	17%	19%	15%	13%	12%	7%	10%	13%
Other	19%	0%	15%	15%	19%	18%	30%	28%	16%
Nothing	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%	0%

16.   In my opinion, computers are really good for:

	LEXSTUDY			LEXCONTROL			BELCONTROL		
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
Learning	77%	92%	85%	80%	56%	76%	75%	78%	77%
Playing games	81%	92%	88%	85%	75%	82%	70%	75%	71%
Work	97%	100%	81%	95%	88%	82%	86%	90%	87%
Programming	35%	42%	42%	50%	19%	29%	43%	40%	52%
Other	10%	0%	8%	10%	13%	18%	30%	23%	0%
Nothing	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
I don't know	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	3%	3%

17.   What are the three most important current events in the news today? For each of these current events, where did you learn about it?[*]

	LEXSTUDY			LEXCONTROL			BELCONTROL		
	September	January	April	September	January	April	September	January	April
Most important current event	China (48%) Bosnia (42%) Simpson trial (24%)	Bosnia (73%) Nigeria (27%) Whitewater (20%)	Unabomber is caught (50%) Ron Brown's death (45%) Mad-cow disease (30%)	Simpson trial (87%) Shootings and murders (27%) Bosnia (13%)	Not enough responses received.	7-yr. old dies in crash (73%) Ron Brown's death (45%) Unabomber is caught (18%)	Simpson Trial (64%) Bosnia (52%) Shootings and murders (18%)	Bosnia (40%) Presidential election (37%) Whitewater (26%)	7-yr. old dies in crash (69%) Ron Brown's death (34%) Unabomber is caught (31%)
Where I learned about it	TV (68%) Newspaper (43%) Class (43%)	TV (73%) Newspaper (33%) Class (33%) Computers and Internet (33%)	TV (72%) Class (39%) Newspaper (28%)	TV (80%) Newspaper (40%) Magazine (20%)	Not enough responses received.	TV (80%) Newspaper (30%) Parents (30%)	TV (73%) Newspaper (48%) Magazine (11%) Radio (11%)	TV (83%) Newspaper (57%) Radio (14%)	TV (82%) Newspaper (43%) Friends or other people (18%)

18. How often would you like the teacher to use *Internet CNN NEWSROOM* during Global Studies class?

	LEXSTUDY January	LEXSTUDY April
More often than we use it now	42%	17%
Just as often as we use it now	54%	54%
Less often than we use it now	0%	29%

[*] For question 17, only the three most popular answers are included.

19. Which of the following tasks do you know how to do on your own using *Internet CNN NEWSROOM*?

	LEXSTUDY January	LEXSTUDY April
Play a news story	25%	29%
Find past news stories about a particular subject	29%	38%
Use the information in the news stories for your class projects and reports	38%	21%
Copy video, pictures or text from the news stories into your class projects and reports	13%	17%
None of the above	46%	46%

20. Which of the following tasks would you like to be able to do on your own using *Internet CNN NEWSROOM*?

	LEXSTUDY January	LEXSTUDY April
Play a news story	63%	75%
Find past news stories about a particular subject	67%	46%
Use the information in the news stories for your class projects and reports	83%	54%
Copy video, pictures or text from the news stories into your class projects and reports	71%	46%
None of the above	4%	13%

21. What do you like *most* about Internet CNN NEWSROOM?

LEXSTUDY January	LEXSTUDY April
Search capabilities (35%)	Informative (56%)
Easy to use (20%)	Search capabilities (13%)
Informative (20%)	Easy to use (13%)
Nothing/Don't know (15%)	Multimedia (13%)
Multimedia (10%)	Fast (13%)
Fast (10%)	Interesting (6%)
Interactive (5%)	Up to date (6%)
Up to date (5%)	On demand (6%)
Clear stories (5%)	
Fun (5%)	

22. What do you like *least* about Internet CNN NEWSROOM?

LEXSTUDY January	LEXSTUDY April
Pauses (50%)	Pauses (53%)
Not able to use it (15%)	Don't know how to use (13%)
Don't know how to use (10%)	Not enough content (13%)
Boring (10%)	Boring (7%)
No complaints (10%)	Does not always work (7%)
Not enough content (5%)	Worksheets (7%)
Cuts off end of story (5%)	Not used enough (7%)
Worksheets (5%)	Slow response (7%)

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